

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OEM Opens Pet-Friendly Shelter

JERSEY CITY – In response to Jersey City residents with pets requiring sheltering, the **Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security** has established a pet-friendly shelter for families with cats and dogs effective 5 p.m. tonight.

OEM will open the **Pershing Field Community Center**, located at Pershing Plaza & Summit Avenue. Residents utilizing this shelter will be required to supply crates and food, as well as other items necessary to safely maintain their pets.

Parking is available at 1 Pershing Plaza in the Pershing Field Pool parking lot.

This shelter will be available from 5:00pm Saturday through the duration of Hurricane Irene.

INFORMATION ABOUT PETS & SHELTER ANIMALS

Liberty Humane Society (LHS) is already taking precautions to safe guard their animals. LHS will have staff at the shelter to monitor the situation. If needed, Jersey City Animal Control Division is prepared to accommodate their evacuation needs as well as any of our residents by using the Jersey City Office of Emergency Management Mobile Animal Rescue trailer. This trailer will be hooked up to an animal control vehicle and will remove any at risk animals to higher ground. If needed, *CART would be activated by the Hudson County Office of Emergency Management in the case of a large scale disaster in the county (terrorism, apartment building fire, hurricane, etc.).

**The Hudson County Animal Response Team (CART) is an all-volunteer group working under the direction of the Office of Emergency Management and in cooperation with the American Red Cross to implement a disaster plan for Hudson County's animals.*

For Pet Owners in case they have to evacuate with their pet(s):

(more)

A quick pet checklist:

- One crate or pet carrier large enough that your pet can stand up, turn around and lie down comfortably. (Remember, this may be your pet's home for many days.)
- Medical records, veterinary contact information, and any medication your pet may need.
- Current photos and description of your pets.
- At least one week's supply of food, water, and litter. (Food should be stored in plastic, air-tight containers.
- A kitty litter scooper. Small, plastic bags for waste disposal, cleaning
- A sturdy leash, collar/harness
- A manual can-opener
- Grooming items
- Newspaper for cage lining, paper towels, and household bleach for cleaning
- Pet toys and bedding to reduce stress
- A kitty litter scooper

Contact these local groups for further information and assistance for animals:

Jersey City Animal Control 201-547-4888

The Liberty Humane Society 201 547-4147

Assistance for Hudson County Hudson County Animal League 201 200-1008

For more information on Hurricane Irene, please continue to visit the city website at www.jerseycitynj.gov and the city Facebook page.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///